

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CCO-00 IO-13 EUR-25 PC-15 AID-20 FBO-01 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NIC-01 NSC-10 SPC-03 OC-06 OPR-02

PA-03 USSS-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15

SY-10 NEA-10 DRC-01 /184 W
----- 067066

O R 120250Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5508

DOD/DIA

INFO USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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ASO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI PINT MILI

SUBJ: SITREP NO. 22 - 2230 HOURS

1. TV/13 2200 HOURS PRESENTED ALL FOUR MILITARY JUNTA MEMBERS. NIRMAY GEN. PINOCHET STATED JUNTA'S GOAL IS TAKE CHILE OUT OF ALLENDE-CAUSED CHAOS. FIRST MEASURE WILL BE TO NAME MILITARY MINISTERS, PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, AND CIVILIAN ADVISORS IN MINISTRIES. CHILE WILL MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES PRESENTLY REPRESENTED EXCEPT CUBA (BUT REVIEWING THOSE WITH OTHER UNNAMED COUNTRIES). JUDICIARY AND CONTROLLER GENERAL WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION, BUT CONGRESS WILL BE IN RECESS UNTIL FURTHER NOTPSE.

2. AIR FORCE GEN. LEIGH STRESSED THE "MARXIST CANCER" OF ALLENDE GOVT AND ECONOMIC, MORAL, AND SOCIAL DISASTER IT HAD CAUSED, THEREBY FORCING ARMED FORCES TO UNDERTAKE "THIS SAD AND PAINFUL MISSION." MILITARY IS AWARE OF GREAT RESPONSIBILITY IT HAS ASSUMED, AND WITH SUPPORT OF VAST MAJORITY OF
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CHILEANS WILL LEAD COUNTRY'S RESURGENCE.

3. NAVY ADM. MERINO ACKNOWLEDGED LONGSTANDING DEMOCRATIC TRADITION OF MILITARY HAD BEEN BROKEN, BUT SITUATION DEMANDED FORCEFUL ACTION. ALL CHILEANS MUST UNDERSTAND SACRIFICE UNDERTAKEN AND SUPPORT NEW GOVT.

4. CARABINERO GEN. MENDOZA STRESSED CARABINERO INTEREST IN RESTORING "TRUE LEGALITY" INCLUDING CORRECT APPLICATION OF CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

5. AFTER PRESENTATION BY JUNTA, TV SWITCHED TO SCENE AT PRESIDENT'S HOUSE AT TOMAS MORO STREET, SHOWING LARGE STORE OF ARMS ALLEGEDLY FOUND IN RESIDENCE. ARMS STATED TO BE SUFFICIENT FOR 120 MEN, INCLUDING LIGHT MORTARS, ROCKET LAUNCHERS, RECOILLESS RIFLES, MACHINE GUNS, AUTOMATIC RIFLES, SUBMACHINE GUNS, HOMEMADE BOMBS, INSTRUCTION MANUALS, MOST APPARENTLY OF RUSSIAN OR EASTERN EUROPEAN MANUFACTURE. ALSO DISPLAYED COMPUTER-TYPE TAPES DESCRIBED AS IBM TAPES, WITHOUT EXPLANATION OF THEIR PURPOSE.

6. EDITOR OF LA TERCERA TOLD EMBASSY HE HAS HEARD REPORTS OF ALLENDE AND OLIVARES SUICIDES (SANTIAGO 4129) AND ALLEGEDLY HAS PICTURE OF ALLENDE CADAVER, BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED MILITARY PERMISSION TO USE EITHER. HE CLAIMED SUICIDE STORY BEING BROADCAST ON MENDOZA, ARGENTINA, RADIO. HE REPORTED LA TERCERA WILL APPEAR TOMORROW BUT WILL BE HEAVILY CENSORED. EDITOR ALSO REPORTED CONTINUAL FIGHTING NEAR TERCERA OFFICES WHICH LOCATED IN AREA OF VICUNA MACKENNA INDUSTRIAL BELT.

7. MILITARY RADIO REPORTED 2155 HOURS THAT SITUATION IN ALL PROVINCES WAS UNDER CONTROL, WITH PUBLIC SERVICES OPERATING NORMALLY. ANNOUNCEMENT NOTED " SMALL GROUPS OF EXTREMISTS" STILL CAUSING SOME RESISTANCE IN SANTIAGO.
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